

MINUTES
SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 01, 2016

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room WW53

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brackett, Vice Chairman Hagedorn, Senators Keough, Winder, Nonini, Vick, Den Hartog, Buckner-Webb and Lacey

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

CONVENED: **Chairman Brackett** convened the meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee (Committee) at 1:32 p.m.

H 472 **Chairman Brackett** welcomed Representative Caroline Nilsson Troy to the Committee and asked her to present **H 472**.

Representative Troy began by reassuring Senator Nonini that this was not a specialty license plate bill. This legislation came from a small trucking company in her home district, Legislative District 5. The owner had just renewed license plates for his commercial vehicles. It took him many hours of paperwork to complete all the different permits in the various states his vehicles travel through.

Almost every permit in every state ties their permits to their license plate; this includes trip permits, oversize permits, overweight permits, fast passes and fuel tax. The 38,000 Idaho trucks on the roads must renew their license plates every seven years. At present, it's not possible for them to keep their current license plate number.

Representative Troy said that originally she thought the issue could be resolved by simply changing seven words, but after the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) reviewed her draft, additional clarification was added so owners could request different license plate numbers.

The fiscal impact of \$16,000 enables the computer program at ITD to be updated. **Representative Troy** concluded by stating that in addition to the co-sponsors already listed online, Senator Mark Harris had been added; she stood for questions.

Vice Chairman Hagedorn asked if this applies to the lifelong license plate system. **Representative Troy** said that it did. There were no further questions.

MOTION: **Senator Vick** moved to send **H 472** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Nonini** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. **Chairman Brackett** said that Senator Johnson offered to carry the bill on the floor.

H 471 **Chairman Brackett** thanked Representative Troy and welcomed David Claiborne, of the Idaho Recreation Council, to the Committee and asked him to present **H 471**.

Mr. Claiborne said that he was presenting **H 471** at Representative Gestrin's request. The changes in the bill address three issues: 1. it consolidates two penalty provisions regarding snowmobiles into one section and fixes the infraction fine at \$100; 2. it allows the money in the Off-Road Motor Vehicle Fund to be used for acquiring long-term licenses and permanent easements for public recreation activity and access to public and private lands; and 3. it allows law enforcement personnel discretion to enforce rules (mostly regarding purchasing stickers) that were adopted by ITD relating to off-highway and snowmobile recreation.

Mr. Claiborne said the motorcycle account was used for motorcycle education, grant funding, permits, land and new terms to purchase easements and licenses. They want to use the funds to acquire long-term recreational rights to the land and not to follow whoever owns the land. He thanked the Committee and stood for questions.

Senator Vick wanted to know the reasoning behind removing the flexibility and fine. **Mr. Claiborne** said the wording in Idaho Code was awkward and people were not purchasing renewal licensing stickers; they thought setting a fixed amount would encourage people to purchase the stickers. **Senator Vick** asked if the new language on page 2 was standard and not broad and out of the ordinary; he wanted to be reassured it was not unusual. **Mr. Claiborne** said he could not speak to it being common, but the language is similar to Idaho Code § 67-7129 and was copied to make sure it could be enforceable.

Vice Chairman Hagedorn asked what licenses were being changed in line 27 on page 1 where it talks about easements licenses and permits. **Mr. Claiborne** said that the license ended when the ownership of the land changed, but with an easement the license remains with the land no matter the owner. There were no further questions.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Hagedorn moved to send **H 471** to the floor with a **do pass** recommendation. **Senator Lacey** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**. **Vice Chairman Hagedorn** volunteered to carry the bill on the floor.

GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENT:

Chairman Brackett thanked Mr. Claiborne and reminded the Committee that at the last meeting of the Committee, they had heard from Janice B. Vassar of Lewiston, Idaho, whom the Governor had reappointed to serve a six-year term on the Idaho Transportation Board (ITB) commencing February 1, 2016, and expiring January 31, 2022.

MOTION:

Senator Winder moved to approve the reappointment of **Janice B. Vassar** to the ITB. **Vice Chairman Hagedorn** seconded the motion. The motion was approved by **voice vote**. **Chairman Brackett** said that Senator Johnson offered to carry the reappointment on the floor.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

Vice Chairman Hagedorn moved to approve the Minutes of the January 28, 2016, meeting. **Senator Nonini** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Senator Winder moved to approve the Minutes of the February 2, 2016, meeting. **Senator Lacey** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

Senator Keough moved to approve the Minutes of the February 4, 2016, meeting. **Senator Den Hartog** seconded the motion. The motion passed by **voice vote**.

ADJOURNED:

Prior to adjournment, **Senator Buckner-Webb** informed the Committee that ITB member Julie DeLorenzo's husband had passed away over the weekend.

With no further business before the Committee, **Chairman Brackett** thanked Senator Buckner-Webb and adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Senator Brackett
Chair

Gaye Bennett
Secretary